

WASHINGTON METROPOLITAN AREA TRANSIT COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D. C.

ORDER NO. 1558

IN THE MATTER OF:

Application of BETTY JEAN DAVIS)	Served May 20, 1976
T/A METRO-AREA SIGHTSEEING TOURS)	
for Certificate of Public)	Application No. 941
Convenience and Necessity to)	
Perform Special Operations)	Docket No. 329

By Application No. 941, filed May 6, 1976, Betty Jean Davis trading as Metro-Area Sightseeing Tours (Metro-Area) seeks a certificate of public convenience and necessity, pursuant to Title II, Article XII, Section 4(b) of the Compact, to transport passengers, over irregular routes, in special operations limited to round trip sightseeing or pleasure tours, over irregular routes, from Burke Lake or Lake Fairfax Campgrounds, in Fairfax County, Va., to Washington, D. C., and Arlington National Cemetery, and return. Metro-Area also requests authority to serve points along its irregular routes through Fairfax City, Fairfax County, and Arlington County, Va.

Metro-Area proposes to offer three separate tours and two combinations of these tours. Tour number 1 would involve the interior of government buildings, including stops at the United States Capitol, Smithsonian Institution, Bureau of Engraving and Printing, and the White House when open. The tour would require approximately 3½ hours and the per capita fare would be \$10. Tour number 2 would involve a riding tour of the city of Washington, including a stop at the Lincoln Memorial. This tour would require approximately 2 hours and the per capita fare would be \$10. Tour number 3 would involve Arlington National Cemetery, the Iwo Jima Marine Memorial, and the John F. Kennedy Memorial Center for the Performing Arts. The tour would require approximately 2 hours and the per capita

fare would be \$10. Metro-Area would offer a combination of tours 1 and 2. This combination tour (number 4) would require approximately 5 hours and the per capita fare would be \$15. Metro-Area also would offer a combination of tours 1, 2 and 3. This combination tour (number 5) would require approximately 8 hours and the per capita fare would be \$20. The per capita fare would not be applicable to children under 10 years of age when accompanied by parents. These persons would be transported at the rate of one half the per capita fare. Metro-Area proposes to render the service in 12 passenger vans.

Title II, Article XII, Section 4(b) of the Compact provides as follows:

When an application is made under this section for a certificate, . . . , the Commission shall issue a certificate to any qualified applicant therefor, . . . , if it finds, after hearing held upon reasonable notice, that the applicant is fit, willing and able to perform such transportation properly and to conform to the provisions of this Act and the rules, regulations, and requirements of the Commission thereunder, and that such transportation is or will be required by the public convenience and necessity; otherwise such application shall be denied.
(Emphasis added.)

Pursuant to this mandate, the Commission shall schedule a hearing to develop an appropriate record. Metro-Area shall be assessed an amount preliminarily estimated to be sufficient to cover the expenses which the Compact, Title II, Article XII, Section 19(a) requires the carrier to bear.

The reason for the hearing is to fully develop the basis for any findings as to Metro-Area's fitness to perform the proposed transportation service and the existing requirements of the public convenience and necessity for the proposed transportation service. Metro-Area shall be required to submit and be prepared to support with a competent witness a statement projecting revenues and revenue deductions, including taxes,

for a one year period, together with supporting details, including the ratio between revenue deductions and revenues. Metro-Area shall be directed to file six (6) copies of the projection statement with the Commission and serve one copy on each party of record on or before June 10, 1976. Metro-Area shall be prepared to present evidence that public convenience and necessity require permanent authorization of the proposed service.

THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED:

1. That Application No. 941 of Betty Jean Davis trading as Metro-Area Sightseeing Tours be, and it is hereby, scheduled for public hearing to commence Thursday, June 17, 1976, at 9:30 A. M., in the Hearing Room of the Commission, Room 314, 1625 I Street, N. W., Washington, D.C.

2. That Betty Jean Davis trading as Metro-Area Sightseeing Tours publish notice in the form prescribed by the staff of the Commission of such application and hearing in a newspaper of general circulation in the Metropolitan District no later than Thursday, May 27, 1976, and present at the hearing a certificate of publication from the selected newspaper.

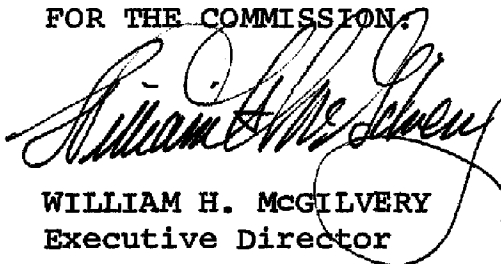
3. That six (6) copies, the original to be submitted at the hearing, of the statements required hereinbefore be filed by Betty Jean Davis trading as Metro-Area Sightseeing Tours with the Commission and one copy served on each party of record on or before Thursday, June 10, 1976.

4. That any person desiring to protest shall file a protest in accordance with Commission Rule 14, or any person desiring to be heard on this matter shall notify the Commission, in writing, on or before Monday, June 7, 1976, and shall mail a copy of such protest or notice to Betty Jean Davis, 5301 Heming Avenue, North Springfield, Va 22151.

5. That Betty Jean Davis trading as Metro-Area Sightseeing Tours be, and it is hereby, assessed \$200 pursuant to the provisions of the Compact, Title II, Article XII, Section 19,

and directed to deliver said amount to the office of the Commission, Room 314, 1625 I Street, N. W., Washington, D. C., on or before Thursday, June 10, 1976.

FOR THE COMMISSION.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "William H. McGilvery", written over a circular stamp or seal.

WILLIAM H. MCGILVERY
Executive Director